

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE MASSACHUSETTS

Mass. HOSPITAL SCHOOL,

(AT CANTON *(Cripples)*)

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1937

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE



MASSACHUSETTS HOSPITAL SCHOOL

POST OFFICE ADDRESS: CANTON, MASS.

44-80. OFFICIAL

TRUSTEES

WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD, *Chairman*, Brookline*
ROBERT B. OSGOOD, M.D., Boston
ROBERT F. BRADFORD, Cambridge**
LOTHROP WITHINGTON, Brookline
W. RUSSELL MACAUSLAND, M.D., Boston

*Deceased November 10, 1937

**Acting Chairman from November 10, 1937

RESIDENT OFFICERS

JOHN E. FISH, M.D., *Superintendent and Treasurer*
LYSANDER S. KEMP, M.D., *Senior Physician*
BENJAMIN E. WOOD, M.D., *Senior Physician*
ANNA MINTZ, D.M.D., *Dentist**
MABEL G. MORGAN, *Principal Bookkeeper**
GEORGE H. LOMBARD, *Steward*
RUTH PARK, B.S. Ed., *Social Worker*
MEREDITH C. STEWART, R.N., *Superintendent of Nurses*
JUNE E. SLEEPER, *Physiotherapist*
JEANNETTE LECLAIR, *Dental Hygienist*
MARGARET R. BRAYTON, A.B., *Head Teacher*
LILLIAN S. SWIMM, *Head Housekeeper*
JOHN SMITH, *Chief Engineer*
WALTER R. SPAULDING, *Carpenter Foreman**
JESS BLACK, *Farmer*

*Non-resident

CONSULTANTS

BRONSON CROTHERS, M.D., <i>Neurology</i>	AUGUSTUS THORNDIKE, JR., M.D., <i>Surgery</i>
H. B. C. RIEMER, M.D., <i>Ophthalmology</i>	LEIGHTON JOHNSON, M.D., <i>Otolaryngology</i>
HENRY GALLUP, M.D., <i>Pediatrics</i>	EDWIN N. CLEAVES, M.D., <i>Roentgenology</i>
ARTHUR T. LEGG, M.D., <i>Orthopedics</i>	SYDNEY C. WIGGIN, M.D., <i>Anesthesia</i>

Established by Act of Legislature in 1904.

For the care and education of the crippled and deformed children of the Commonwealth.

A school with hospital facilities.

Resident medical, nursing and teaching staff.

Education and convalescence proceed together.

Education of a crippled child is not charity any more than is the education of a normal child.

No form of surgical care or other treatment, however desirable or necessary it may be, can be regarded as complete which neglects the social, moral and mental growth of crippled children.

The school's curriculum is made up of the usual elementary subjects and its eighth grade diploma admits to public high school. There are vocational courses open to selected eighth grade graduates.

Educational methods extend far beyond the scholastic instruction of the school-room.

Every effort is made to put the child in a proper attitude toward life, to eliminate self-pity, to develop character and to teach him that physical disability is not the handicap he has been led to believe, but rather an inconvenience to be overcome.

It has been found that the placing of crippled children under healthy conditions, thus directly stimulating opportunities for play, study and amusement, tends to destroy any sense of self-pity and teaches them to minimize or forget their disabilities.

The educational methods of the school are based on the belief that the economic independence of crippled children depends even more upon their mental attitude toward a life of usefulness than upon their physical handicap.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been a leader in the work of training crippled children, and the results shown by the record of graduates are a justifiable source of gratification to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

TERMS OF ADMISSION

Crippled and deformed children of the Commonwealth, between the ages of five and fifteen years, who are mentally competent to attend public school, are eligible for admission for hospital care and educational training.

Certain state minor wards who are not insane, feeble-minded, epileptic or otherwise unfit are admitted for hospital care only.

Payment for the board of private patients must be made in advance, unless sufficient surety therefor is given.

The institution is located on Randolph Street in the town of Canton, about two miles from Canton and Canton Junction stations of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad.

Automobile bus connects with two trains at Canton Junction station on Saturdays and Sundays.

Post-office address: Canton, Massachusetts.

Applications for admission should be made to the Superintendent.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

To His Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council:

It is with satisfaction that the trustees can report another year of steady progress at the Massachusetts Hospital School. The attached reports of Dr. John E. Fish as superintendent and as treasurer, which are made a part of this report, give eloquent proof that in a period of constantly rising costs and increasing demands the school, under his wise and able guidance, has met every emergency and continues to deserve the international recognition it has won as a pioneer in the development and rehabilitation of crippled children.

The trustees once more and most earnestly request favorable consideration of the recommendation they have made each year since 1931; that the old East

Dormitory be replaced by two modern, fire-proof cottages. To quote from the project sheet submitted to the Budget Commissioner on October 15, 1937:

"The original building was cheaply constructed of wood, sills have decayed and building settled so that many doors cannot be opened. The plaster is badly cracked and broken on walls and ceilings and this building used as a sleeping dormitory for sixty children, is beyond the possibility of practicable repairs. Detailed plans and specifications were completed three years ago, duplicating the last two cottages to be erected at this institution."

It is pointed out in Dr. Fish's report that this old wooden building has been in constant use for thirty years and if allowed to stand for another year will cost at least \$5,000 for repairs. Even if such repairs are made, the dormitory will still be inadequate and a continual source of expense.

Other needs, less urgent but pressing, include a new Nurses' Home to take the place of the former infirmary which has been used for the nurses' quarters since 1924, and an industrial building to serve in the dual capacity of an adequate cold-storage plant and to meet the present requirements of the industrial class work in the school.

As the years pass, the Commonwealth can take increasing pride in the numbers of Massachusetts Hospital School graduates who hold active and responsible places in the life of their communities. One hundred fifty members of the Alumni Association attended the June meeting, which marked the twenty-fifth since the graduation of the first class. Interest in the work of the school and the welfare of its graduates has prompted friends from time to time to make gifts. To provide a means of keeping such gifts separate from the finances of the institution as such, the General Court, by Chapter 306 of the Acts of 1922, created a corporation consisting of the trustees for the purpose of holding such gifts for the benefit of the school, its inmates, former inmates or graduates or any association thereof. The act also provides "that in the use, management and administration of such gifts or trusts, the trustees or agents shall, in their discretion, so act as most effectively to aid the beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of the gifts or trusts, and when so acting their judgments and determinations in extending or denying aid or benefit to any individual shall be conclusive and final."

Under the authority conferred by this act, the trustees have deposited various gifts received by will and otherwise in an endowment fund which, through careful management, has increased from small beginnings to a point where the income from this fund has made it possible for the trustees to make expenditures for the comfort and pleasure of pupils of the school over and above the requirements for which the Legislature would make maintenance appropriations. Talking motion picture equipment, radios, pianos and athletic equipment, prizes for graduation, books for the library and other extra purchases from this fund have contributed a great deal to the development and happiness of the inmates. In addition, a number of deserving graduates of the school have been given or loaned small sums from the income of the fund which, in some cases, have made it possible for them to complete the preparation needed for a useful and self-supporting career. Since the endowment fund is in no way identified with the regular expenses of the institution, the trustees believe it can be increasingly helpful in carrying out the purposes for which it was created.

On November 10, 1937, occurred the death of Mr. William F. Fitzgerald, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School. The trustees desire to express their deep regret at the loss of this valuable servant of the institution.

Mr. Fitzgerald was appointed a trustee by His Excellency, Governor Curtis Guild, Jr., in December, 1906, and attended his first meeting with the Board on December 26, 1906. The last meeting which he called was held on October 5, 1937, when as Chairman, he had invited the other members of the Board to be his guests at luncheon at the Algonquin Club. Mr. Fitzgerald became an active member of the Board a year before the first child was admitted. He served the institution ably and faithfully for over thirty years. A man of large and far-flung business interests and of great influence in State and civic affairs, he brought to

the service of the Hospital School those qualities of wisdom and kindness which this pioneer institution peculiarly needed in its early days. He helped to protect it and nurture it during its growth, watching with intense satisfaction its splendid development under the superintendence of Dr. John E. Fish into a model for the nation. His sense of responsibility remained unchanged in the face of lessened physical vigor. He attended meetings of the Board and presided with undiminished alertness. The school will miss a devoted counsellor, shrewd in the interpretation of the motives of men. The State of Massachusetts has lost a true public servant.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM F. FITZGERALD, *Chairman**

ROBERT B. OSGOOD, M.D.

ROBERT F. BRADFORD**

LOTHROP WITHINGTON

W. RUSSELL MACAUSLAND, M.D.

Trustees

* Deceased November 10, 1937

** Acting Chairman from November 10, 1937

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School:

With each succeeding year the field of activity in the interest of crippled children in Massachusetts has been broadened by the extension of the work of the older agencies and the establishment of new ones. Supplementing the State's annual school census, which includes all crippled children of school age, Federal clinics have been established in various parts of the State in the hope that other crippled children may be found and appropriate treatment provided for all.

The gratifying public response from both lay and professional workers to every suggestion for the welfare of crippled children naturally has led to some confusion and duplication of effort. The results already accomplished have been of value in bringing about a better understanding of the various factors essential to a well-balanced program. The one fact always to be borne in mind is the individual advantage to be gained, whether it be by surgery and nursing care, physiotherapy, education and specialized training, or a properly adjusted balance of all.

The term "cripple," with respect to appropriate care and training, unfortunately has come to have a rather vague and indefinite meaning, and it is apparent that many parents and others do not understand the complexity of the problem. If a crippled child has some defect of speech, hearing or sight, or is mentally retarded, it is unreasonable to expect the best results from any form of surgical relief alone. It is also likely to be a serious drawback to a permanently crippled child if his education is slighted or neglected. There must be no fear, however, that the best results cannot be met in Massachusetts by a clear conception of what constitutes thorough work and the coordination of all agencies working together for one common purpose.

At the beginning of the year there were in both departments of the Hospital School two hundred sixty-nine children, one hundred thirty-eight girls and one hundred thirty-one boys. One hundred thirty-eight girls and two hundred boys were admitted. The whole number under treatment during the year was six hundred seven, two hundred seventy-six girls and three hundred thirty-one boys. The maximum number at any one time was two hundred eighty-two, the minimum was one hundred twenty-seven, and the average daily number for the year two hundred fifty-four and thirty-four hundredths.

The discharges numbered three hundred thirty-one, one hundred forty-four girls and one hundred eighty-seven boys, leaving in the institution at the end of the year two hundred seventy-six children, one hundred thirty-two girls and one hundred forty-four boys.

Of the three hundred thirty-eight children admitted, three hundred five were natives of Massachusetts, nineteen of other New England states, five of other states, two of foreign countries, and the birthplaces of seven were unknown.

In reviewing the statistics, it should be borne in mind that while the institution

is maintained primarily for the care and training of crippled and deformed children, its hospital facilities are available for the care of certain other children under the supervision of the Director of Child Guardianship of the State Department of Public Welfare. Under the law authorizing the trustees to provide hospital care for certain state minor wards, exclusive of such children who are "feeble-minded, epileptic or otherwise unfit," it has become the policy not to admit state minor wards for long-continued care. Although the average daily number of those who were admitted for hospital care only was but thirty-five and eleven hundredths, or less than fourteen per cent of the inmate population, the whole number of such cases under treatment during the year was three hundred twelve.

The average admission age to both hospital and school departments was nine years, four months and twenty-eight days.

Of the discharged cases entered for hospital care, two hundred thirty-four had recovered; eighteen had improved; five were found to have very large thymus glands and therefore the tonsillectomies for which they were admitted were postponed unless their tonsils became a greater menace to health. The condition of eight children was unchanged and one, a victim of diabetes, was transferred to another institution.

Of the sixty-six orthopedic cases discharged, thirty-seven recovered or were so much improved that a trial at home to attend public school seemed desirable. One boy who was taken home by his parents for a brief visit failed to return at the appointed time and the authorities of the place of settlement reported that the family doubtless had left the State. There were two deaths during the year, one from multiple osteomyelitis, amyloid degeneration of kidneys and liver, and one from multiple infectious arthritis and chronic nephritis. One child was found to have pulmonary tuberculosis and was transferred to a State sanatorium. Five boys and three girls, although physically improved, were incapable of further advancement in our grades and therefore were discharged as mentally unpromising.

The following cases were automatically discharged at the age of twenty-one. One was a victim of extensive osteomyelitis, who otherwise might qualify for clerical work. Two, having been trained in sewing and needlework, were placed under favorable conditions in their own homes. Both were suffering from extensive deformities due to Morquio's disease and osteogenesis imperfecta. One, heavily handicapped by infantile paralysis, hoped her knowledge of stenography and typewriting might bring her part-time employment in her own home.

Eleven other orthopedic cases, although permanently crippled, were encouraged in their ambition to find employment immediately after discharge. One received the Gregg shorthand diploma and is capable of success as a stenographer. One makes salable wooden articles at home. One is a cook at police barracks. Three are rendering creditable service as nursemaids. One is housekeeper for her mother. One who has obtained a chauffeur's license is well qualified for self-support, and three anticipated placement as filling-station attendant, news-stand clerk and assistant in poultry-plant. Of the two remaining discharges, one was a child of three who had recovered from a fractured tibia and fibula; the other planned to continue her training in fine needlework at the Industrial School for Crippled and Deformed Children in Boston.

Income from all sources for the year amounted to \$67,364.36, or \$17,211.18 less than last year. This decrease in income may be explained by the delayed transmission of a substantial check for the care of state cases which had not been received when the Treasurer's books were closed at the end of the year. Last year's receipts also were above the average, due to settlement of accumulated town and city bills through the Department of the Attorney General in controversial cases.

Total expenditures for the year were \$232,182.58, as compared to \$224,034.31 last year. By dividing the sum expended by two hundred fifty-four and thirty-four hundredths, the daily average number of patients, the per capita weekly cost is found to be \$17.507, or \$.916 more than for the preceding year.

The daily average was less by four and sixty-two hundredths patients and was still further lowered by a greater number of home visits, which resulted in a com-

bined absence of five thousand nine hundred thirty-one days, exceeding last year's record by ten days.

Payroll expenditures increased from \$145,510.61 to \$148,753.82, a difference of \$3,243.21. With the same stability of service of officials and employees that has been noteworthy for a number of years, payment for salaries and wages was greater in 1937 than for a corresponding period before the eight-hour law went into effect, by approximately \$23,000.

To continue the comparison of 1937 with 1936, we find that we expended \$20,580.96 for food, or \$339.06 less than last year, and at the same time increased our food inventory, including home products, by \$2,223.90. Expenses classified under Medical and General Care show a slight increase from \$5,898.84 in 1936 to \$6,059.42 last year, but under this item also our inventory was increased by \$381.44.

Clothing and Materials cost us \$3,666.34 in 1936 and \$4,936.60 in 1937, an increase of \$1,260.26. Having begun the year with a comparatively small amount of clothing in stock, valued at \$1,458.70, we were able to bring our clothing inventory back to a normal supply, valued at \$2,822.97, at the end of the year.

The cost of ordinary maintenance repairs does not change materially from year to year. Carpenters, painters and mechanics, who take an honest pride in their work from day to day and without loss of time, make no varying demands for materials, for which we paid \$3,493.93 and closed the year with a balance of \$6.07.

Renewals and repairs not occurring annually, and therefore not classifiable under ordinary maintenance repairs, have been completed during the year by regular employees and some temporary labor, as follows:

A new mangle was installed in the laundry at a cost of \$4,910.79 to replace the one which had been in use for nearly thirty years.

The steel water tower and tank were painted at a cost of \$315.71.

The Assembly Hall roof of slate was renewed with the best grade of felt shingles over the original heavy copper flashing. The work was done by regular employees at a cost for materials of \$593.39.

Under a special grant of \$4,785, a new X-ray machine and equipment, with modern shock-proof devices and facilities for quick exposure, was installed, complete, at a cost of \$2,941.

An insight into the character of the work of our resident physicians may be suggested by the following table of

DIAGNOSIS ON ADMISSION

School Department

	Boys	Girls	Total
Anterior poliomyelitis	6	4	10
Arthritis, infectious	1	—	1
Cerebral palsy	4	1	5
Congenital club foot	3	—	3
Congenital deformities	3	2	5
Congenital dislocation of hip	1	1	2
Congenital dislocation of hips; hypothyroidism	—	1	1
Epiphysitis of hip	1	—	1
Epiphysitis of os calcis	1	—	1
Fracture of clavicle	1	—	1
Fracture of humerus	3	—	3
Fracture of radius and ulna	3	—	3
Fracture of tibia and fibula	2	—	2
Fragilitas ossium	1	—	1
Infection of foot and leg	1	—	1
Legg Perthe's disease	3	—	3
Osteomyelitis	5	2	7
Paralysis following fracture of skull	1	—	1
Paralysis following gunshot wound of spine	—	1	1
Post-operative skin-graft	1	—	1
Progressive muscular dystrophy	2	—	2

	Boys	Girls	Total
Rickets	1	—	1
Spina bifida paralysis	3	—	3
Transverse myelitis	1	—	1
Tuberculous disease of hip	—	1	1
Tuberculous disease of spine	2	—	2
Ulcer of heel	1	—	1
	51	13	64

Hospital Department

	Boys	Girls	Total
Abscess of foot	—	1	1
Bronchitis	1	—	1
Burns	1	1	2
Chorea	3	3	6
Circumcision	8	—	8
Dermatitis	4	4	8
Diabetes	1	—	1
Eczema	1	—	1
Enuresis	3	1	4
Furunculosis; nasopharyngitis, chronic	1	—	1
Hernia, umbilical	1	—	1
Hysteria	—	1	1
Ileocolitis	1	—	1
Impetigo	19	8	27
Impetigo; pediculosis	3	1	4
Impetigo; scabies	1	1	2
Infection of throat	—	1	1
Infection of ankle	1	—	1
Ischio-rectal abscess	—	1	1
Malnutrition	3	—	3
Migraine	1	—	1
Obstruction, intestinal	—	1	1
Otitis media	2	5	7
Otitis media; tonsils and adenoids, diseased	1	—	1
Pharyngitis; dermatitis	—	1	1
Pin worms	—	1	1
Polyp of auditory canal	1	—	1
Post-operative bilateral mastoid	1	—	1
Question of syphilis, congenital	—	1	1
Referred for examination of lungs	1	—	1
Rheumatic fever	1	—	1
Rheumatic heart	1	1	2
Rheumatic heart; syphilis, congenital	—	1	1
Scabies	15	10	25
Scabies; dermatitis	—	2	2
Scabies; impetigo	—	1	1
Scabies; pediculosis	—	2	2
Scabies; stomatitis	—	1	1
Sinus infection	1	—	1
Syphilis, congenital	—	3	3
Tinea circinata	1	1	2
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased	65	61	126
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; asthma	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; cervical adenitis	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; circumcision	3	—	3
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; dental caries	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; dermatitis	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; deviated septum	—	1	1

	Boys	Girls	Total
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; impetigo; scabies	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; otitis media	1	—	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; scabies	—	1	1
Tonsils and adenoids, diseased; Vincent's angina	—	1	1
Toxemia, intestinal	—	1	1
Vulvo-vaginitis	—	2	2
	150	123	273

There were during the year six cases of measles, six cases of chicken-pox and one case of whooping-cough.

The long-established policy of paying special attention to oral hygiene has been justified in the improvement in the general health of our children, many of whom came to us with sadly neglected teeth. Records of the dental clinics show two hundred thirty-seven amalgam fillings, seventy-seven cement and amalgam fillings, forty-five synthetic fillings, thirteen zinc oxide fillings, twelve cement fillings, ninety-two copper amalgam fillings, nineteen germicidal Kryptex fillings, eighty-three extractions, one hundred thirty-four X-rays, nine fissures polished, sixty-two impressions taken, one four-tooth bridge, one full upper and lower plates, two hundred seventy-one treatments, two hundred twenty-two examinations and prophylaxis in one thousand four hundred ninety-four cases.

Notwithstanding the handicap of insufficient room and equipment, due to the interrupted building program, progress has been made by the patient, painstaking efforts of the physiotherapist, whose record shows four thousand four hundred fifty corrective exercises, treatments by massage and baking two thousand eight hundred fourteen, by heliotherapy one thousand one hundred thirty-six, and by training in locomotion two thousand fifty-four.

By obtaining the cooperation of a number of consultants of acknowledged authority, the resident staff has had the opportunity to make a comprehensive study of the various forms of disease as presented by the children admitted for hospital care and as occurring among our composite group of orthopedic cases. Regular clinics have been conducted for the expert advice of these prominent specialists, who have also given their kind and much-appreciated aid as emergencies have arisen. It is a great pleasure to testify to the courtesy which has marked all our relations with the distinguished men who most graciously serve as consultants.

One hundred seventy-eight surgical operations were performed during the year, and of this number all but ten were by the resident senior physicians, who have been strongly supported by the Superintendent of Nurses and her deputies.

More than ever this year the

SCHOOL AND SOCIAL SERVICE

deserve a special chapter by one whose long and equally varied teaching and executive experience is a valuable asset to the institution.

To the Superintendent:

The total number enrolled upon our school lists during the school year to June 25 has been two hundred forty-four, classified as follows:

Class	Average membership	Average daily attendance	Per cent of attendance
Grades 8-Commercial	34 +	33 +	96
Grades 5-6-7	59 +	58 +	98 +
Grades 2-3-4	49 +	46 +	94 +
Grades 1-sub-primary	29 +	26 +	93 +
Ungraded-Remedial	35 +	34 +	96 +

The total enrollment is much larger than the daily average because our school population is constantly changing through discharges, new admissions and absences through visits at home.

We are fortunate in the stability of our teaching staff, most of whose members have long experience with us. Our head teacher is now entering upon her ninth year of constructive and widening service.

This year marks the twenty-fifth since our first class received their diplomas from the school department. The annual graduation exercises on June 25 were arranged to commemorate this event, in harmony with the old Latin motto selected by the class of '37, "Per aspera ad astra." We were fortunate in having with us as guests three members of the original class of 1912, now men and women important in the business and professional life of their communities. Others of that class whom we should have liked to see present were unable to attend on account of personal engagements. The program included essays covering a brief history of the school, a description of our present activities, "Our Successful Alumni," advantages of a Hospital School, and "1961—A Prophecy."

Diplomas were awarded to eighteen eighth grade graduates and to one graduate in stenography. The latter girl, heavily handicapped as a result of infantile paralysis, has earned her Gregg diploma with us and has hopes of employment at the City Hall of her own home.

Of these boys and girls seven have begun further education elsewhere, nine are working here on pre-vocational courses, one is keeping house for an employed mother, and another is planning to develop a trade in handcraft in his home. One of the boys still here is taking a State correspondence course in physics with good results to date.

Religious services according to parents' preferences have been held regularly as usual at our assembly hall community center. All holidays have been appropriately observed. Our printing classes produced a creditable piece of work in their blue and silver covered program of events for the Christmas holidays. It shows as nothing could better do the interplay of Christmas spirit between our school and the community, and deserves inclusion here. After appropriate greetings from the Superintendent and from the classes, it continues:

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 17—*Norwood Elks' party*

FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 18—*Christmas entertainment by Hobby Clubs (M. H. S.)*

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 19—*Entertainment by Wollaston Girl Scouts*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20—*Celebration of Mass, 8 A.M.
Chapel, 4 P.M.*

MONDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 21—*Entertainment, Brockton Girl Reserves*

MONDAY EVENING—*Carol singing before buildings on the campus, followed by Eighth Grade Christmas party*

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 22—*Eighth grade Candlelight Tea at the schoolhouse, with Christmas music*

WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23—*Christmas concert by the M. H. S. Glee Clubs*

THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24—*Open house at the cottages with a visit from Santa*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25—*Celebration of Mass, 8 A.M.
Gifts and games
Christmas dinner.*

School activities continue to blend training for social responsibility with thorough drill in the fundamental academic subjects. The hobby clubs are holding interest for a third year, dramatic expression with practice in play production, from the building of scenery on, is extending the field a valuable art should occupy, and music study for appreciation and performance has been successful in a number of concerts. Out-of-class musical projects have included an interesting guitar club among our older pupils, led by the head of one of our cottages. The Silver Moon Orchestra is a school organization that should have special mention for the pleasure it has given at many social events, though its membership includes only one of our alumni, the rest being drawn from our medical staff and their families. School assemblies have been held regularly and teas, class parties and the class ride have had their usual place. The annual May Day breakfast served by Grade Seven to the graduating class was adjourned to a spot on the slope of a hill overlooking the lake, where with appropriate ceremony a fine Siberian Elm was planted

and dedicated to one of our Senior Physicians, Dr. Lysander S. Kemp. The class play this year was a faithful and human dramatization of that loved classic, "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer." The members of the class threw themselves into the familiar parts with all their hearts and the result was a memorable performance.

We take this opportunity of expressing our thanks and appreciation to the fifty-one organizations and individual givers who have sent, especially at Christmas, many beautiful and practical gifts for the benefit of our children. Some friends who first learned to know one of our girls or boys through club giving have continued interest year after year, bringing bright contacts with the larger world.

Beside the Norwood Elks and others already mentioned in our Christmas program, many groups have brought entertainment to our children. Among those who have come here sometimes annually over a term of years are the athletic clubs of Mr. Gurvitz of Boston, the young peoples' societies from Temple Mishkan Tefila, Boston, the Men's Club of the Canton Congregational Church, the American Legion Junior Auxiliary of Randolph, the Braintree High School gymnasium class, Mr. Wishart and friends of the Fore River Shipyard, the Wrentham State School in their annual operetta, and the Needham Civic Orchestra. The last-mentioned came to us through the interest of one of its members, a graduate in the class of 1916, who received his earlier musical training here and now finds much pleasure in a busy life by means of his connection with this fine community organization. The lives of our girls and boys are enriched by these friendly visits. We appreciate the coming of our many guests and some of them are so kind as to say that they receive pleasure in their turn from their appearance before our group.

Since earliest years our library has been one of the most valued pleasures of the school. It now numbers several thousand volumes. Each year, through purchases from the Endowment Fund of the Trustees and through other sources, replacements are made and new volumes of permanent and recreational value are added. The school and the dormitory departments have worked in closest harmony with the library and contributed largely to the interest shown by our pupils. We now have outgrown our two rooms at the assembly hall, and could put to good use a library building, where the growing work for the younger children could find more suitable space.

Our Alumni Association continues to grow in value with the passing years. A hundred and fifty attended the June meeting at the school, and nearly the same number were present at the Boston dinner and installation of officers on November 20. Our earliest graduates are now mature men and women. They form a group of which any school might be proud. Not long ago we received a legislative calendar published at the State House in Augusta, Maine. In it was the picture of one of our boys of the class of 1914, now representing his district at the capitol. Another young man in Greater Boston, a member of the class of 1929, has lately been elected by a sweeping vote to the lower house of the Massachusetts Legislature. We are glad to realize that these earnest citizens, looking back upon childhood years spent at the Hospital School, will be a helpful and understanding power in our efforts to improve and extend all the work of the Commonwealth so long as there is work to be done for crippled children.

Respectfully submitted,

RUTH PARK, *Social Worker.*

THE FARM

when credited with indispensable institution work shows a profit for the year of \$2,440.59. As an independent unit, however, even if the operations of the farm were not frequently interrupted for more important service, it would, in my opinion, prove to be unprofitable for several apparent reasons. The light, dry soil is not adapted to a variety of humus-yielding crops. Working hours are short and we have no patient or inmate labor comparable to that available at other institutions, with which our very small farm practices are compared for statistical purposes. It has been the policy not to expand farm activities beyond the point of producing many of our vegetables and practically all of our milk, eggs, pork and

poultry. Under this policy enough men and equipment are employed to make the farm, as an adjunct to the institution, the most practical agent for the accomplishment of constantly needed work.

Our herd of high-grade Guernsey cows produced 204,232.2 pounds of milk with a comparatively high butter fat content.

Under the prescribed system of farm accounting, our cows are valued upon a basis of milk production with butter fat content at a maximum of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$. It is understood, of course, that the accounting system has been introduced principally for purposes of standardization, but the above fact should be borne in mind when we observe that milk, having an average butter fat content of 5.70% for the year, was produced at an average cost of \$.10 per quart. Our poultry inventory at the beginning of the year was \$2,122 and at the end of the year \$1,698, a shrinkage of \$424.

The number and value of swine showed a shrinkage from ninety-one, valued at \$2,763, to twenty-four, valued at \$603.60. Through a clerical misunderstanding shoats were recorded for inventory purposes last year at an estimated live weight value of \$.09 per pound instead of at \$.60 per animal, as has been done this year.

Altogether, the farm produced 204,232.2 pounds of milk, 2,398 pounds of beef, 16,349 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of pork, 116,236 eggs, 4,050 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of fowl, 3,295 pounds of chicken, 30 pounds of broilers, 1,153 pounds of string beans, 15 pounds of shell beans, 5,465 $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of beets, 594 pounds of beet greens, 816 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of broccoli, 4,861 pounds of cabbage, 9,595 pounds of carrots, 54 pounds of cauliflower, 207 pounds of celery, 744 pounds of Swiss chard, 6,513 pounds of sweet corn, 1,645 pounds of cucumbers, 12 pounds of dandelions, 48 pounds of egg plant, 176 pounds of endive, 833 pounds of lettuce, 721 pounds of onions, 2,034 pounds of parsnips, 38 pounds of parsley, 302 pounds of peas, 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds of peppers, 290 pounds of pumpkins, 758 pounds of rhubarb, 1,285 pounds of spinach, 1,435 pounds of summer squash, 3,797 pounds of winter squash, 7,473 pounds of tomatoes, 4,049 pounds of turnips, 197,320 pounds of ensilage, 14,630 pounds of millet, 12,720 pounds of oats and peas, 7,135 pounds of rye, 6,900 pounds of rape, 8,825 pounds of grass and 3,150 pounds of rye straw.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To state a few problems, our first and urgent need is for the replacement construction recommended for the past several years. The East dormitory should follow its companion, the West dormitory, which was razed three years ago to make room for two modern fire-proof cottages. It has not seemed wise to make more than temporary repairs to an old wooden building which has been in constant use for thirty years, especially when its inadequacy is so apparent to every one who is at all familiar with its condition. The building has settled into its decayed sills until some of the sliding doors cannot be opened; plaster ceilings and walls long since have been reinforced with wall board; wood shingles have been patched and repatched. It will cost at least \$5,000 for repairs if the building is allowed to stand for another year, and it would still be inadequate and a constant source of expense.

The old infirmary, always a poor substitute for a Nurses' Home, is lacking in many important particulars the accommodations to which our increasing number of nurses is entitled.

The Industrial Building of factory construction, designed for temporary use in earlier days when the demands of crippled children were little understood, must soon be replaced by permanent compact construction.

When these most urgent needs are met, we can then provide at comparatively small expense improved facilities for physiotherapy and hydrotherapy, for which there is an increasing popular demand.

Our ice crop frequently has been insufficient in quantity and of inferior quality. It was a complete failure last year and we were obliged to pay \$958.86 for ice, a sum equal to the estimated cost of electric refrigeration, which should be installed in our storeroom the coming year.

It is also advisable to install at small expense a 54" garment press and an air compressor to increase efficiency and relieve congestion in the laundry.

Provision should be made this year to extend the stone wall defining the northern boundary, which after many years has been established by legislative authority.

The 60" horizontal tubular boilers have been in operation for thirty years and, while they are still given the approved maximum rating, it must be expected that retubing costs may involve an expense at any time. Provision for this emergency has been made in the budget estimates for the ensuing fiscal year.

The only alloy to the pleasure which your Superintendent has found in the progress of the work of the year just closed has been the removal by death of Mr. William F. Fitzgerald, the last member of the original board of trustees, who had borne an honorable and useful part in the affairs of the institution for thirty-two years.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. FSH, M.D.,
Superintendent.

SURGICAL OPERATIONS

Amputation of right lower leg	1
Appendectomy	1
Bilateral tenotomy of tendo Achilles	1
Circumcision	11
Excision of scar	1
Incision and drainage of abscess of ankle	1
Incision and drainage of abscess of foot	1
Incision and drainage of abscess of forearm	1
Incision and drainage of ischio-rectal abscess	1
Incision and removal of specimen	1
Laparotomy	2
Manipulation and reduction of fracture of elbow	1
Open division of right sterno-cleido-mastoid muscle	2
Osteotomy of femur and removal of nail	1
Paracentesis of ears	1
Plastic	4
Radical cure of inguinal hernia	1
Radical cure of umbilical hernia	1
Reduction of fracture of femur	1
Reduction of hip	2
Removal of polyp	2
Sequestrectomy	1
Subcutaneous tenotomy of plantar fascia	1
Tenotomy of tendo Achilles	1
Tonsillectomy and adenectomy	135
Paracentesis of ear (employee)	1
Tonsillectomy and adenectomy (employee)	1

NATIVITY AND PARENTAGE OF CHILDREN ADMITTED

	Patient	Father	Mother
<i>Birthplace</i>			
Massachusetts	305	100	129
Other New England States	19	33	53
Other States	5	17	9
Total Native	329	150	191
<i>Other Countries:</i>			
Austria	—	1	2
British West Indies	1	1	1
Canada	—	23	28
Cape Verde Islands	—	6	4
England	—	5	2
Finland	—	1	1
France	—	1	—
Greece	—	3	3
Ireland	—	1	13
Italy	—	18	14
Lithuania	—	6	4
Madeira Islands	—	3	1
Newfoundland	1	2	3
Poland	—	10	11
Portugal	—	5	2
Russia	—	7	4
Scotland	—	6	2
Total Foreign	2	99	95
Unknown	7	89	52
	338	338	338

STATISTICS

CENSUS

	School Department			Hospital Department			Total
November 30, 1936	230			39			269
Admitted during year	64			273			337
Returned from visit of last year	1			—			1
Whole number under treatment	295			312			607
Discharged	66			265			331
November 30, 1937	229			47			276
Average age of admissions	Yrs. 9	Mos. 11	Days 14	Yrs. 8	Mos. 10	Days 13	
Youngest	1	10	8	1	1	14	
Oldest	19	6	16	20	1	12	
Average daily number present	219.23			35.11			
Average daily enrollment				294.53			

TREASURER'S REPORT

To the Trustees of the Massachusetts Hospital School:

I respectfully submit the following report of the finances of this institution for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1937:

RECEIPTS

Income		
Board of inmates	\$66,107.89	
Personal services:		
Reimbursement from Board of Retirement	76.61	
Sales	489.02	
Rent	298.75	
Refunds, account of previous years	384.84	
Sundries	7.25	
		\$67,364.36
Receipts from Treasury of Commonwealth:		
Advance fund	\$17,000.00	
Maintenance appropriation	149,382.85	
		166,382.85
Total		\$233,747.21

PAYMENTS

To the Treasury of the Commonwealth	\$66,979.52	
Maintenance appropriation	149,382.85	
Advance fund	17,000.00	
Refunds, account of previous years	384.84	
		\$233,747.21

MAINTENANCE

Appropriation current year	\$242,877.32	
Expenses as analyzed below	232,182.57	
		\$10,694.75

Total receipts and payments are in agreement with Comptroller's books of accounts.

ANALYSIS OF EXPENSES

Personal services	\$148,753.82	
Food	20,580.96	
Medical and general care	6,059.42	
Farm	12,386.79	
Religious instruction	1,380.00	
Heat and other plant operation	19,676.56	
Travel, transportation and office expenses	2,398.97	
Garage and grounds	1,519.16	
Clothing and materials	4,936.59	
Furnishings and household supplies	5,177.08	
Repairs, ordinary	3,493.33	
Repairs and renewals	5,819.89	
Total expenditures for maintenance		\$232,182.57

EMERGENCY PUBLIC WORKS

	Appropriation	Expended
Sewer		
Project revised and reduced	\$29,032.27	\$29,032.27

SPECIAL APPROPRIATION

X-ray equipment	\$4,700.00	\$2,941.00
Balance November 30, 1937		1,759.00

PER CAPITA

During the year the average number of inmates has been 254.34
 Total cost for maintenance, \$232,182.57
 Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$17.5554
 Receipts from sales, \$489.02
 Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$.0369
 All other institution receipts \$66,875.34
 Equal to a weekly per capita cost of \$5.0564
 Net weekly per capita cost, \$12.4621

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN E. FISH, M.D.,
 Treasurer.

VALUATION
November 30, 1937
Real Estate

Land, 165.72 acres	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	\$41,806.00
Buildings and equipment	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	773,435.18
										<hr/>
										\$815,241.18

Personal Property

Travel, transportation, etc.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	\$10.17
Food	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5,366.86
Clothing and materials	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	6,722.59
Furnishings and household supplies	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	68,213.67
Medical and general care	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	16,088.80
Heat and other plant operations	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5,139.17
Farm	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	16,277.18
Garage and grounds	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5,121.62
Repairs, ordinary	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	5,413.39
										<hr/>
										\$128,353.45
										<hr/>
										\$943,594.63

Financial Statement Verified
3/11/38 R. W. C.

Approved
GEO. E. MURPHY,
Comptroller.